

MA 111 Medical Assisting Lab

Critical Thinking Week 1

Name: Brittany Overlock

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1. Why is it important to remove patients from the waiting room with acute infections as soon as possible after they arrive?

Answer: I think that this would be so it can be prevented that any other person might catch what a patient might have, removing them from the waiting room into a patient room minimizes people and objects that could become contaminated due to touching, coughing ect. Acute infections are very hard to detect due to that fact that the symptoms come in a rapid effect meaning that you could be fine one moment but the next you are sick.

2. Differentiate between sanitation, disinfection and sterilization.

Answer: Sanitation is a process of cleansing that reduces the number of microorganisms to get to a safe level, it removes debris such as blood and other bodily fluids from instruments and equipment always wear gloves while performing this process.

Disinfection is the process of killing pathogenic organisms or for rendering them inactive, that agents used vary if the amount of effectiveness and must be used according to the instructions.

Sterilization is the destruction of all microorganisms; this is essential for surgical asepsis there should be a specific area set up in each office for their sterilization so occur.

3. Why would a temperature taken oral, rectal and axillary not have a common value of 98.6°

Answer: I think this is due to the fact the Rectal is inside the body itself and can be higher than an oral or axillary temp because there is cool air running through the mouth and armpit well taking the temperature. The body will read many different readings depending where you take a temperature and what type of thermometer you are using

4. Describe the difference between medical asepsis and surgical asepsis.

Answer: Medical asepsis: cleaning and cleanliness in one's self and environment that reduces the number of pathogens and the means of their growth and transfer (not utterly removing pathogens). Examples of medical asepsis would be handwashing, wearing gloves ect

Surgical asepsis: is eliminating pathogens (including viruses) and spores completely from a surface of concern. That makes sense as in surgery, internal organs and blood vessels are exposed to any small number of microorganisms for infection and proliferation. Examples of this

would be autoclaving of instruments a stair room such as a Operating room, Working at a medical practice, you are accidentally stuck with a contaminated needle.

5. What does the practice need to do to comply with OSHA standards?

Answer: Employees are supposed to keep an injury log, that describes what device was involved and the details of how and where the incident happened. They need to complete an OSHA bloodborne pathogen standard, in the standards it is said that the person needs to use hand washing and flushing of any exposed body area, using alcohol based sanitizer would be good to use if hand washing is not readily available, It states that you need to use all safety precautions.

6. Why is it important for a medical assistant to obtain height and weight measurements on patients at each visit to the medical office?

Answer: This is because the physician or doctor that is seeing the patient will use measurements to help with diagnosis and treatment plans, if a patient is on medications that can change due to height or weight, they might consider changing them.

7. Describe proper handwashing technique, when should we wash and when is it appropriate to use alcohol-based hand sanitizer?

Answer: Hands should be washed with soap and water for a minimum of 15 seconds with soap and rubbing alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol should be used before and after contact with each patient, also after removing gloves. to use hand sanitizer, use the label recommended amount to palm of one hand and rubbing the hands together covering all surfaces until hands are dry. They state that you should never wear fake/ artificial nails should not be worn, also that when washing hand that you should clean nail beds, and that natural nail beds should not be any longer than one fourth of an inch to prevent growth of bacteria under the nails.

8. Why is it improper to make a diagnosis of hypertension using only one blood pressure reading?

Answer: A patient can have a high blood pressure at one point, but the blood pressure can change depending on if they are nervous or upset about anything. the blood pressure can also change depending on how the person is sitting when the blood pressure is taken.